



PRESS RELEASE

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Ice Carving at Lock 3 this Weekend

Weather to be Perfect for Ice Skating and Sledding

Akron, Ohio (January 12, 2012) - Ice carving comes to Lock 3 this Saturday and Sunday, as students of University of Akron chef Richard Alford sharpen-up their saws and chisels to practice for inter-collegiate competitions later this year.

Teams of students from the *Garde Manger* Club and ice carving team will be practicing their ice sculpting for visitors Saturday and Sunday, 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm, each day.

The students are part of the University's Summit College Hospitality Management program, and will carve ice blocks into sculptures. Ice Carving Team members travel across the country competing in contests. Since 1994, the team has won four national ice carving competitions and recently took third place in the National Ice Carving Association Invitational tournament in Holland, Michigan.

The Lock 3 Ice Skating Rink - Ohio's largest seasonal rink - is open through Sunday, January 29. Hours are Thursdays, 11 am -9 pm; Fridays and Saturdays, 11 am – 11 pm; and Sundays, 11 am – 6 pm.

The Reindeer Run sledding hill operates 6-9 pm Thursday-Saturday, and 1 pm -4 pm, Saturday and Sunday.

On Monday, January 16, Martin Luther King Day, Lock 3 will be open 11 am – 6 pm. The sledding hill will be open 1 pm – 4 pm.

Last weekend, the 6th annual *Firefighter's Chili Challenge* attracted 400 guests and raised over \$2,600 for the Burn Unit at Children's Hospital, bringing the total raised since 2007 to \$13,000.

Lock 3 has continued to set records this season for ice skaters and sledders, with more than 22,000 skaters in December, 5,000 riders on Reindeer Run to date, and 50,000 guests since Lock 3 opened November 19 for its 8th winter season in Downtown Akron. No events are planned for February, but Saturday morning pancake breakfasts begin in March.

The City is getting ready to celebrate Lock 3's Tenth Anniversary Summer Season in 2012 with the popular concert series "Rock the Lock" beginning May 25.

For a complete schedule of events at Lock 3 visit www.lock3live.com or call the Lock 3 Park Information Desk at 330.375.2877.

Lock 3, located at 200 South Main Street in Downtown Akron, is open through January 29 with skating at Ohio's largest seasonal skating rink. Free admission. \$3 skate rental. \$3 sled rental.

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Interviews and photos are readily available. To set up interviews or to receive photos, please contact Maria Nagel at 330-441-2493 or maria_nagel1@yahoo.com.